

REMARKS

Applicant has canceled claims 5, 12 and 13. Applicant has amended claims 1-4, 6, 9 and 11. Claims 1, 6, 9 and 11 are the only pending independent claims. For the convenien of the Examiner, attached at the end of this document is a clean "Claims Appendix" of the current wording of all pending claims.


Each of the independent claims includes a limitation of "associating an output image file" with a chip table (claims 1 and 9) or with an experiment table (claims 6 and 11). This limitation is not present in the claims of issued U.S. Patent No. 6,229,911.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at .

Respectfully submitted,


Charles J. Kulas
Reg. No. 35,809

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
CJK:jtc
SF 1375450 v2

8

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) A computer-implemented method for managing information relating to processing of polymer probe arrays, said method comprising the steps of:

creating an electronically-stored experiment table, said experiment table storing a record for an experiment, said experiment record comprising:

a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to a polymer probe array chip in said experiment;

a second identifier identifying said polymer probe array chip to which said target sample was applied in said experiment; [and]

creating an electronically-stored chip table, said chip table storing a record for said polymer probe array chip, said chip record comprising:

said second identifier identifying said polymer probe array chip; and

a third identifier specifying a layout of polymer probes on said polymer probe array chip; and

associating an output image file with said electronically-stored chip table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.

2. (Amended) The method of claim [A1] 1 further comprising the step of:

performing an experiment wherein said target sample is applied to said polymer probe array chip.

3. (Amended) The method of claim [A1] 1 further comprising the steps of:



creating an electronically-stored target table, said target table storing a record for said target sample, said target sample record comprising:
said first identifier identifying said target sample; and
a fourth identifier specifying parameters of preparation of said target sample.

4. (Amended) The method of claim [Al] 1 wherein said polymer probe array chip comprises an oligonucleotide array chip.

6. (Amended) A computer-implemented method for managing information relating to processing of polymer probe arrays, said method comprising the steps of:


storing in an electronically-stored experiment table for each of a plurality of experiments, a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to an polymer probe array chip in a particular experiment;

storing in said electronically-stored experiment table for each of said plurality of experiments a second identifier identifying said polymer probe array chip to which said target sample was applied in said particular experiment;

storing in an electronically-stored chip table for each of a plurality of polymer probe array chips, said second identifier identifying a particular polymer probe array chip; and

storing in said electronically-stored chip table for each of said plurality of polymer probe arrays chips a third identifier specifying a layout of polymer probes on said polymer probe array chip; and

associating an output image file with said electronically-stored experiment table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.



9. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon:

code for creating an electronically-stored experiment table, said experiment table listing for each of a plurality of experiments:

a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to an oligonucleotide array chip in a particular experiment;

a second identifier identifying said oligonucleotide array chip to which said target sample was applied in said particular experiment; [and]

code for creating an electronically-stored chip table, said chip table listing for each of a plurality of oligonucleotide array chips:

said second identifier identifying said particular oligonucleotide array chip; and

a third identifier specifying a layout of oligonucleotide probes on said particular oligonucleotide array chip; and

code for associating an output image file with said electronically-stored chip table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.

11. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon:

an electronically-stored experiment table, said experiment table listing for each of a plurality of experiments:

a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to an oligonucleotide array chip in a particular experiment;

a second identifier identifying said oligonucleotide array chip to which said target sample was applied in said particular experiment; [and]

an electronically-stored chip table, said chip table listing for each of a plurality of oligonucleotide array chips:



said second identifier identifying a particular oligonucleotide array chip;
and
a third identifier specifying a layout of oligonucleotide probes on said
particular oligonucleotide array chip; and
associating an output image file with said electronically-stored experiment
table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from
a biological source to produce said output image file.

